

# Public Health Awards

## —Supplemental List—

HOMER N. CALVER, B.S.

THIS supplemental list of public health awards brings up to date, as of August 15, 1957, the analysis published in the January 1956 issue of *Public Health Reports* (pp. 62–66). Here as there the list includes awards to lay individuals and persons connected with communication media for contributions to public health or the popular understanding thereof. Omitted are the following categories of honors: (a) those not primarily intended for services in the field of public health unless a public health worker has as much chance of winning the award as does a member of another profession; (b) those given for length of service or

length of membership; (c) those given for published papers describing research as distinct from those for the research itself; (d) those given to former officers and members for service to the organization; (e) election to Delta Omega or to other honorary societies; (f) scholarships and fellowships; (g) honorary lectureships.

One award has been dropped from the list and 18 added (see table). A few minor changes in the original listing are noted below:

- The American Hospital Association Award of Merit is now known as the Distinguished Service Award.

- The Axson-Choppin Award originally restricted to a citizen not connected with a health department is now given to an individual not in full-time employment of an official public health agency.

- The Bell Award trophy is now a plaque.

---

*Mr. Calver is secretary of the Public Health Committee of the Paper Cup and Container Institute and editor of its Health Officers News Digest. Robert E. Mytinger, assistant to the secretary, tabulated the awards.*

### Public Health Awards Added to the 1956 List

Name, sponsor, and administrator <sup>1</sup>	Type <sup>2</sup>	Eligibility for award	Basis
<b>Abel Award.</b> Eli Lilly & Co. (S). American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (A).	\$1,000 at irregular intervals.	Researchers-----	Excellence in research for persons under 35 years of age.
<b>Appert Medal.</b> Institute of Food Technologists, Chicago Section (S, A).	Medal-----	Members and non-members.	Outstanding accomplishments in food technology.
<b>Barton Memorial Award.</b> Louisiana Public Health Association (S, A).	Certificate-----	Unrestricted-----	Significant achievement in research, scholarship or outstanding pioneering performance in public health in Louisiana.
<b>Blackwell (Elizabeth) Medal.</b> American Medical Women's Association (S, A).	Medal-----	Members-----	Distinguished member of the association for contribution to medicine, public welfare, or the association.
<b>Bryant Award.</b> Texas Public Health Association (S, A).	Scroll and trip to APHA annual meeting.	Unrestricted-----	Outstanding public health achievements.

## Public Health Awards Added to the 1956 List—Continued

Name, sponsor, and administrator <sup>1</sup>	Type <sup>2</sup>	Eligibility for award	Basis
<b>Formento Memorial Award.</b> Louisiana Public Health Association (S, A).	Certificate-----	Individual not in full time employment by official public health agency.	Meritorious activity to foster the program or any phase thereof in any area of Louisiana.
<b>Indiana Public Health Association Award.</b> Indiana Public Health Association (S, A).	Plaque-----	Unrestricted-----	Outstanding service in the field of public health.
<b>Lasker Award.</b> Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation (S, A).	\$2, 000, scroll and statuette; 3 per year.	Journalists and commentators.	Outstanding reporting on medical research and public health in newspapers, magazines, radio, TV.
<b>Lasker Award.</b> Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation (S). Planned Parenthood Federation of America (A).	\$500 and scroll; irregular as merited.	Health officers, physicians, administrators, health educators.	Outstanding leadership in furthering the cause of planned parenthood.
<b>Mangold (Outstanding Sanitarian) Award.</b> National Association of Sanitarians (S, A).	Medallion and plaque to the department for 1 year.	Members-----	Active environmental sanitarian who has performed duties in an exceptional manner, such as raising the status of the profession.
<b>McCormack Award.</b> Association of State and Territorial Health Officers (S, A).	Scroll; no set number.	-----do-----	Service in public health 25 years or more, at least 10 as State health officer, and with one or more major accomplishments to his credit in administration or research related to public health.
<b>McIver (Pearl) Public Health Nurse Award.</b> American Nurses Association (S, A).	Medallion; one every 2 years.	Public health nurses.	Outstanding public health nurse.
<b>New Mexico Public Health Association (Public Health Worker) Award.</b> New Mexico Public Health Association (S, A).	Metal platter-----	Member of official or voluntary public health unit.	Outstanding service to the cause of public health in the State of New Mexico.
<b>Oklahoma Public Health Association Award.</b> Oklahoma Public Health Association (S, A).	Plaque-----	Members-----	Outstanding work in the field of public health.
<b>Oregon Public Health Association Award.</b> Oregon Public Health Association (S, A).	-----do-----	Individual public health workers, voluntary agency executives, and lay volunteers.	Outstanding contributions in the field of public health in Oregon.
<b>West Virginia Public Health Association Award.</b> West Virginia Public Health Association (S, A).	-----do-----	Public health personnel.	Outstanding achievement for public health in State.
<b>West Virginia Public Health Association Award.</b> West Virginia Public Health Association (S, A).	-----do-----	Any citizen-----	Outstanding achievement for public health in State.
<b>Winslow, C.-E. A., Award.</b> Connecticut Public Health Association (S, A).	-----do-----	Public health workers and agencies.	Outstanding achievement in public health in Connecticut.

<sup>1</sup> S—Sponsor; A—Administrator.

<sup>2</sup> Except as noted, 1 award is given each year.

- The Crumrine Awards medals are now medallions.

- The Florida Sanitarians Scroll is now the Florida Association of Milk and Food Sanitarians Scroll.

- The Massachusetts Association of Sanitarians Scroll has been discontinued.

- The North Carolina Public Health Association Award citation certificate is now a plaque.

- The Rankin Award trophy has been changed to a plaque.

- The Reynolds Award trophy has been changed to a plaque.

- The Ross Medal given by the National Tuberculosis Association may now be awarded to

medical practitioners and scientists as well as to those outside.

- The Shattuck Award originally one award is now approximately six per year.

- The Sippy Award is no longer restricted to the members of the district in which the annual meeting of the Western Branch of the American Public Health Association is held.

- The White Memorial Award plaque has been changed to a scroll and is restricted to a full-time employee of any official health agency instead of to any member of the State department of health.

- The honorarium of the original 3 Lasker Awards has been doubled and 2 more awards, 1 of lesser value, have been set up.

## Reactions to Penicillin

The number of serious reactions to penicillin has been increasing each year according to Dr. Henry Welch, chief, Division of Antibiotics, Food and Drug Administration, reporting before the Fifth Annual Symposium on Antibiotics, October 3, 1957.

A substantially higher number of reactions to penicillin than to other antibiotics were discovered by an FDA survey, the first nationwide study of reactions to the principal antibiotics, covering a period from the latter part of 1953 to early 1957.

The number of reactions to penicillin is still small, Dr. Welch pointed out, when it is considered that millions of persons receive the drug each year and that it has saved tens of thousands of lives. The increased incidence of reactions, he added, is to be expected in the wide use of a highly antigenic substance.

The FDA survey was a geographic sampling of severe cases treated by more than 1,600 private physicians and covered 198,000 of the 685,000 general hospital beds available in this country. The survey was conducted by inspectors in the agency's 16 districts.

In the survey, 3,419 histories of severe reactions to all antibiotics were collected and

classified. Of these, 424 were excluded from the tabulation because of insufficient data. One-third of the reported reactions were classified as life-threatening. Of these, 900, the great majority, followed the use of penicillin. More than 600 of the most serious reactions resulted from penicillin by intramuscular injection. In 122 of these cases, penicillin was used in combination with streptomycin and dihydrostreptomycin.

Intramuscular injections were followed by 71 deaths from anaphylactoid shock, the most serious reaction. Anaphylactoid reactions occurred with about equal frequency in both sexes and in all adult age groups. The smallest number of these reactions occurred in children 12 years of age and under.

Although no physicians were found to be using penicillin indiscriminately, Dr. Welch thought that the trend in serious reactions indicated that there should be a clear-cut need before the drug is administered.

The complete report will appear in the December issue of *Antibiotic Medicine and Clinical Therapy*. FDA officials plan other dissemination.